NUMBER 14

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inspection, we will do our best to please both in goods and prices.

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Sermon was as Jolows:

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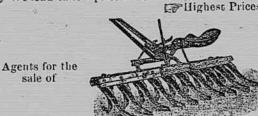
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HIS MISFORTUNE DUE TO A BAD

SAMSON'S LOST STRENGTH.

WOMAN'S WILES.

Ways Good Men Are Sometimes Shorn of Their Strength-Full Text of His Dis-

BROOKLYN, Sept. 20.-After expounding the appropriate passages of Scripture in the Brooklyn Tabernacle this morning, the Rev. T. De Witt Talminge, D. D., gave out the hymn:

So let our lips and lives express
The holy gospel we profess;
So let our works and virtues shine.
To prove the doctrine all divine.

subject of Dr. Talmage's sermon The shorn locks of Samson. He took for his text Judges xvi, 5: Entice him, and see wherein his great strength lieth, and by what means we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him; and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred pieces of silver." The sermon was as follows:

enough to describe him. He was a giant and a child; the conqueror and the defeated; able to snap a lion's jaw, and yet captured by the sigh of a maiden. He was ruler and slave; a commingling of virtue and vice, the subline and the ridiculous; sharp enough to make a good riddle, and yet weak enough to be caught in the most superficial stratagem; honest enough to settle his debt, and yet outrageously robbing somebody else to get the material to pay it; a miracle and a scoffing; a crowning glory and a burning shame. There he stands, looning up above other men, a mountain of flesh; his arms bunched with muscle that can lift the gate of a city; taking an attitude deflant of armed mon and wild beasts. His hair had never been cut, and it rolled down in seven great, plaits over his shoulders, adding to his flerceness and terror. The Philistines want to conquer him, and therefore they must find out where the secret of his strength lies. There is a woman living in the val

ley of Sorek by the name of Delilah. They appoint her the agent in the case. The Philistines are secreted case. The Philisthes are secreted in the same building, and then Delilah goes to work and coaxes Samson to tell what is the secret of his strength. "Well," he says, "if you should take seven green withes, such as they fasten wild beasts with, and put then around me. I should be perfectly powerless." So she binds him with the seven green withes. Then she class her hands and says. Then she claps her hands, and says, "They come-the Philistines!" and he walks out as though there were no impediment. She coaxes him again, and says, "Now tell me the secret of this great strength;" and he replies. If you should take some ropes that have never been used, and tie me with them, I should be just like other men." She ties him with the ropes, claps her hands and shouts, "They come—the Philistines!" He walks out as easy as he did before—not a single obstruction. She coaxes him again, and he says, "Now, if you should take these seven long plaits of hair, and by this house loom weave them into a web, I could not get away." So the house loom is polled up, and the shuttle flies backward and forward, and the long plaits of hair are woven into a web. Then she claps her hands, and says, "They come! the Philistines!"

He walks out as easily as he did be fore, dragging a part of the loom with him. But after awhile she persuades him to tell the truth. He says: "If you should take a razor, or shears, and cut off this long hair, I should be powerless, and in the hands of my enemics." Samson sleeps, and, that she may not wake him up during the pro-cess of shearing, help is called in. You know that the barbers of the east have such a skillful way of manipulating the head, to this very day they will put a man, wide awake, sound asleep. I hear the blades of the shears grinding against each other, and I see the long locks falling off. The shears, or razor, accomplishes what green withes and new ropes and house loom could not do. Suddenly she claps her hands and says: "The Philistines be upon thee, Samson!" He rouses up with a struggle, but his strength is all gone! He is in the hands of his enemics! I hear the groun of the giant as they take his eyes out, and then I see him staggering on in his blindness, feeling his way as he goes on toward Gaza. The prison door is opened and the giant is thrust in. He sits down and guant is thrust in. He sits down and puts his hands on the mill crank, which, with exhausting horizontal motion, goes day after day, week after week, month after month—work, work, work! The consternation of the world in captivity, his locks shorn, his ages must read grinning comming. CAPE CHARLES CITY, VA. his eyes punctured, grinding corn in Gaza. In a previous sermon on this character I learned some lessons, but another class of lessons are before us

Learn first how very strong people Learn first how very strong people are sometimes coaxed into great imbecilities. Samson had no right to reveal the secret of his strength. Delilah's first aftempt to find out is a failure. He says: "Green withes will bind me," but it was a failure. Then he says, "A new rope will hold me," but that also was a failure. Then he says, "Weave my locks into a web and that will bind me," yet that also was a failure. But at last you see how she coaxed it out of him. Unimportant actions in life that involve no moral actions in life that involve no moral principle may without injury be sub-jected to ardent persuasions, but as soon as you have come to the line that separates right from wrong, no induce-ment or blandishment ought to make you step over it. Suppose a man has been brought up in a Christian house-hold and taught sacredly to observe the Sabbath. Sunday comes; you want fresh air. Temptation says, "Sunday is just like other days; now don't be bigoted; we will ride forth among the works of God; the whole earth is his temple; we will not go into any dissipations; come, now, I have the carriage engaged and we shall be back ONANCOCK, VA.,

BOOT and SHOE

WAXXES.

Stylish and fine work for gen
The stylish of the resounding wheels.

upica man may nave had sacra. character enough to break the green withes of ten thousand Philistine allurements, but he has been overcome

by coaxing.

Two young men passing down this street come opposite a drinking saloon with a red lantern hung out from the door to light men to perdition. "Let us go in," says one. "No, I won't," says the other; "I never go to such places," "Now, you don't say you are as weak as that. Why, I have been going there for two years and it hasn't hurt me. Come, come now, be a man. If you can't stand anything stronger, take a little sherry. You need to see the world as it is. I don't believe in intemperance any more than you. I can stop drinking just when I want You shall go. Now, come right ng." Persuasion has conquered. Samson yields to the coaxing and there is carnival in hell that night among the Philistines and they shout, "Hat hat We've got him." Those who have the kindest and most sympathetic natures are the most in danger. Your very disposition to please others will be the very trap they set. If you were cold and harsh and severe

est man who ever lived, was overcome WHAT BAD WOMEN CAN DO.

Again, this narrative teaches us the power of an ill disposed woman. In the portrait gallery of Bible queens we find Abigail and Ruth and Miriam and Vashti and Deborah, but in the rogues' gallery of a police station you find the pictures of women as well as men. Delilah's picture belongs to the rogues' gallery, but she had more power than all Philistia armed with sword and spear. She could carry off the iron gates of Samson's resolution as easily as he shouldered the gates of Gaza. The force that had killed the lion for the giant. He who had driven an army in riotous retreat with the bleached jaw bone, smiting them hip and thigh with great slaughter, now falls captive at the feet of an unworthy woman. Delilah in the Bible stands in the memorable company of Adah, and Zillah, and Bathsheba, and

Jezebel, and Athaliah, and Herodias.

How deplorable the influence of such in contrast with Rebecca and Phobe and Huldah and Tryphona and Jeph-tha's daughter and Mary, the mother of Jesus. While the latter glitter in the firmament of God's word like constellations with steady, cheerful, holy light, the former shoot like baleful meteors across the terrified heavens, ominous of war, disaster and death. If there is a divine power in the good mother, her face bright with purity, an unselfish love beaming from her eye, a gentleness that by pangs and sufferings and holy anxieties has been mellowing and softening for many a year, uttering itself in every syllable, a dignity that cannot be detironed, united with the playfulness that will not be checked, her hand the charm that will instantly take pain out of the child's worst would, her presence a perpetual benediction, her name our defense when we are tempted, her memory an outgushing well of tears her heaven a palm waving and a coronal; then there is just as great an influence in the opposite direction in the bad mother, her brow beclouded with bad mother, her brow beclouded with ungoverned passion, her eye flashing with unsanctified fire, her lips the head and shoulders above others in fountain of fretfulness and depravity. her example a mildew and a blasting. her name a disgrace to soming generations, her memory a signal for bit terest anathema, her eternity a whirl wind and a suffocation and a darkness. One wrong headed, wrong hearted mother may ruin one child, and that one child, grown up, may destroy a hundred people and the hundred blast a thousand, and the thousand a miliion. The wife's sphere is a realm of honor and power almost unlimited.
What a blessing was Sarah to Abraham, was Deborah to Lapidoth, was
Zipporah to Moses, was Huldah to

There are multitudes of men in the you for the hard knocks in the world and the disappointment of poor invest-ments. Your table may be quite fru up the evening stand, and sings in the nursery. You have seen an aged couple who for scores of years have helped each other on in life's pilgrimage going down the steep of years. Long association has made them much alike. They rejoiced at the same advent, they bent over the same cracle, they went at the same grave. In the evening they sit quietly thinking of the past, mother knitting at the stand, father in his arm chair at the fire Now and then a grandchild comes and they look at him with affection

untold and come well nigh spoiling him with kindnesses. The life cur-rents beat feebly in their pulses and their work will soon be done and the Master will call. A few short days may separate them, but, not far apart in time of departure, they join each other on the other side the flood. Side by side let Jacob and Rachel be buried. Let one willow overarch their graves. Let their tombstones stand alike marked with the same Scripture. Children and grandchildren will come in the spring time to bring flowers. The patriarchs of the town will come and drop a tear over departed worth.
Side by side at the marriage altar.
Side by side in the long journey. Side
by side in their graves. After life's
fitful fever they slept well. SOME HISTORIC CASES.

But there are, as my subject suggests, domestic scenes not so tranquil. What a curse to Job and Potiphar were their companions, to Alab was Jetebel, to Jehoram was Athaliah, to John Wesley was Mrs. Wesley, to Sumson was Delilah. While the most excellent and triumphent exhibitions

men of history, and the world thrills with the names of Marie Antoinette and Josephine, and Joan of Arc and Maria Theresa and hundreds of others, who have ruled in the brightest homes and sung the sweetest cantos, and enand swaved the mightiest of scepters, on the other hand the names of Mary the First of England, Margaret of France, Julia of Rome and Elizabeth

Petrowna of Russia have scorched the eye of history with their abomina-tions, and their names, like banished spirits, have gone shrieking and curs-ing through the world. In female biography we find the two extremes of excellence and crime. Woman stands nearest the gate of heaven or nearest the door of hell. When adorned by grace she reaches a point of Christian elevation which man cannot attain, and when blasted of rime she sinks deeper than man can Yet I am glad that the inplunge. Yet I am glad that the in-stances in which woman makes utter

shipwreck of character are compara-But, says some cynical spirit, what do you do with those words in Ecclesiastes where Solomon says: "Be-If you were cold and harsh and severe in your nature you would not be tampered with. People never fondie a hedgelog. The most sentimental Greenlander never kisses an reception of the warmth and susceptibility of your nature will encourage the siren. Though strong as a giant, look out for Delilah's seissors. Samson, the stronger was a warm among all those have I not found?" My answer is that if Sologet was a warm and those have I not found?" My answer is that if Sologet was a warm of the second of the

a woman among all those have I not found?" My answer is that if Solomon had behaved himself with common decency and kept out of infamous circles he would not have had so much difficulty in finding integrity of character among women and never would have uttered such a tirade. Ever since my childhood I have heard speakers admiring Diogenes, the cyuical philosopher who lived in a tub, for going through the streets of Athens in broad daylight with a lantern, and when asked what he did that for, said: "I

am looking for an honest man." Now I warrant that that philosopher who had such hard work to find an honest man was himself dishonest. I think he stole both the lantern and the tub. which one day plunged out fierce from the thicket utterly succumbs to the silken net which Delilah weaves and the weaknesses of women, I immediately suspect him and say there is an ately suspect him and say there is another Solomon with Solomon's wisdom left out. Still, I would not have the illustrations I have given of transcend-ing excellency in female biography lead you to suppose that there are no perils in woman's pathway. God's grace alone can make an Isabella Graham, or a Christina Alsop, or a Fidelia Fiske, or a Catherine of Siena. Temptations lurk about the brightest domestic circle. It was no unmeaning thing when God set up amidst the dors of his word the character of

infamous Delilah. HOW THEY LOSE THEIR STRENGTH. Again, this strange story of the text leads me to consider some of the ways in which strong men get their locks shorn. God, for some reason best known to himself, made the strength of Samson to depend on the length of his hair; when the shears clipped it his strength was gone. The strength of men is variously distributed. Some times it lies in physical development, sometimes in intellectual attainment, sometimes in heart force, sometimes in social position, sometimes in financial accumulation; and there is always a sharp shears ready to destroy it. Every day there are Samsons ungianted. I saw a young man start in life under the most cheering advantages. His acute mind was at home in all scientific dominions. He reached not

only all rugged attainments, but by delicate appreciation he could catch the tinge of the cloud and the sparkle mental stature. He could wrestle with giants in opposing systems of philosophy and carry off the gates of opposing schools and smite the enemies of truth hip and thigh with great slaughter. But he began to tamper with brilliant free thinking. Modern theories of the soul threw over him and all the Philistines of doubt and darkness and despair were upon him. He died in a very prison of unbelief,

his eyes out.

Far back in the country districtsjust where I purposely omit to saythere was born one whose fame will There are multitudes of men in the marts of trade whose fortunes have been the result of a wife's frugality. Four hands have been achieving that estate, two at the store, two at the store, two at the store, two at the bone. The burdens of life are comestate, two at the store, two at the home. The burdens of life are comparatively light when there are other hands to help us lift them. The greatest difficulties have often slunk away because there were four eyes to look them out of countenance. What care them out of countenance. What care there were four eyes to look them out of countenance. What care there were four the burd knocks in the world better the world better the burd knocks in the world better the burd knocks in the world better th you for the hard knocks in the world as long as you have a bright domestic circle for harbor! One cheerful word in the evening tide as you come in has silenced the clamor of unpaid notes silenced the clamor of unpaid notes and the disappointment of poor invest failed. Exhausted with lifelong dis Min. sipa ions, he went home to die. gally spread, but it seems more beautiful to you than many tables that smoke with venion and blush with and poets sung, and painters sected, and sculptors chiseled the majestic Burgundy. Peace meets you at the door, sits beside you at the tuble, lights up the evening shad and singuist. it was strong drink that came like the infamous Pelilah and his locks were shorn.

From the Island of Corsica there

started forth a nature charged with unparalleled energies to make thrones tremble and convulse the earth. Piedmont, Naples, Bavaria, Germany, Italy, Austria and England rose up to crush the rising man. At the plunge of his bayonets Eastiles burst open. The earth grouned with the agonics of Rivoli, Austerlitz, Saragossa and Eylau. Five million men slain in his wars. Crowns were showered at his feet, and kingdoms hoisted triumphal arches to let him pass under, and Europe was lighted up at the conflagration of con-suming cities. He could almost have made a causeway of human bones be-tween Lisbon and Moscow. No power short of omnipotent God could arrest him. But out of the ocean of human blood there arose a spirit in which the conqueror found more than a match. The very ambition that had rocked the world was now to be his destroyer. It grasped for too much and in its effort lost all. He reached up after the scepter of universal dominion, but slipped and fell back into desolation and banishment. The American ship, damishment. aged of the storm, today puts up in St. He out on his great toe, while a thi-Helena and the crew go up to see the spot where the French exile expired in spot where the French exile expired in was eating or drinking as the case

day made powerless. They have strewn the earth with the carcasses of giants and filled the great prison house with destroyed Samsons, who sit grinding the mills of despair, their locks shorn and their eyes out. If pa rents only knew to what temptations their children were subjected they would be more carnest in their prayers and more careful about their example No young man escapes having the pathway of sin pictured in bright col-ors before him.

The first time I ever saw a city-it was the city of Philadelphia—I was a mere lad. I stopped at a hotel, and I remember in the eventide a corrupt man plied me with his infernal art. He saw I was green. He wanted to show me the sights of the town. He painted the path of sin until it looked like emerald; but I was afraid of him. I shoved back from the basilisk. made up my mind he was a basilisk. I remember how he reeled his chair round in front of me and with a concontrated and diabolical effort attempted to destoy my soul; but there were good angels in the air that night. It was no good resolution on my part, but it was the all encompassing grace of a good God that delivered me. Be-ware! heware! O young man!

death. If all the victims of an impure life in all lands and ages could be guthered together, they would make a host vaster than that which Xerves led across the Hellespout, than Timour led across India, than William the Conqueror led across England, than I bou-Bekr led across Syria; and if they could be stretched out in

single file across this continent, I think the vanguard of the host would stand on the beach of the Pacific while yet the rear guard stood on the beach of the Atlantic. A WORD TO THE WISE.

I say this not because I expect to reclaim any one that has gone astray in this fearful path, but because I want to utter a warning for those who still maintain their integrity. The cases of reclamation of those who have given themselves fully up to an impure life are so few, probably you do not know one of them. I liave seen a good many start out on that road. How many have seen come back? Not one that now think of. It seems as if the spell of death is on them and no hu-man voice or the voice of God can break the spell. Their feet are hoppled, their wrists are handcuffed. They have around them a girdle of reptiles bunched at the waist, fastening to an iron doom: every time they breathe the forked tongues strike them and they strain to break away until the tendons snap and the blood exudes; and amidst their contortions they cry out: "Take me back to my father's house. Where is mother? Take me home! Take me home!"

Do I stand before a man today the locks of whose strength are being toyed with, let me tell you to escape lest moral and your spiritual integrity. Do you not see your sandals beginning to curl on that red hot path? This day in the name of Almighty God I tear off the beautifying veil and the em-broidered mantle of this old hag of iniquity, and I show you the ulcers and the bloody ichor and the cancered lip and the parting joints and the macerated limbs and the wriggling putrefaction, and I cry out. Oh, hor-ror of horrors! In the stillness of this Sabbath hour I lift a warning. Remember it is much easier to form bad habits than to get clear of them; in one minute of time you may get into a sin from which all eternity cannot

get you out. Oh, that the voice of God's truth might drown the voice of Delilah. Come into the ways of pleasantness and the paths of peace, and by the grace of a pardoning God start for thrones of honor and dominion upon which you may reign, rather than travel the road to a dungeon where the destroyed grind in the mills of despair, their locks shorn and their eyes

Translating as He Spoke. The variations of language in dif-ferent parts of the same country are often so extreme that residents in one region can hardly understand those of a different region. A certain calico manufacturer in the north of England employed a set of workmen whose pronunciation was quite unintelligible

to alien ears.

One day a southern visitor, wishing to note the variations of popular language, said to him: "I hear that you are obliged to speak in two different." tongues, one to your friends, and another to your workmen. Is that true?"
"It is perfectly true, as I will show you. Hear me address one of the men. Fetch Mr. Dean."

to alien ears.

The operative stared, and uttered nothing beyond a peculiar guttural sound. "Fetch Mr. Dean, I say!" Still the same stolid expression of countenance continued.

The employer then glanced meaningly at his friend, to prepare him for a surprise, and said, abruptly, "Fot Dane, mun." The messenger darted off at once, without another word. When he reuppeared, his master said to him, 'Why have you tied up your head!'

No answer was returned, and the question was repeated, with the same result. Then the master said, quickly: "What thee got thee yed teed up "To keep the yure out o' my een," was the immediate answer.—Youth's

When the King Drinks. Whenever Fing Dua took a drink of palm wine, or ate his meals, one of his wives produced a hard brown nut about the size of an egg, with one end cut off, and the inside hollowed out. This nut he slowly placed on the great toe of his left foot; this done, the palm wine or food was placed before him, and a slave boy came and stood behind him with a handbell. Every time he took a mouthful of food, or a drink of massanga or palm wine, he rapped the bottom of the canoe with the nut on his great toe, while a tin-kle on the bell announced to all whom

spot where the French exile expired in loneliness and disgrace, the mightiest of all Samsons shorn of his locks by ambition, that most merciless of all Delilahs.

I have not time to enumerate. Evil I have not time to enumerate. Evil to Stanley's Rear Guard-J. R. Wer-